

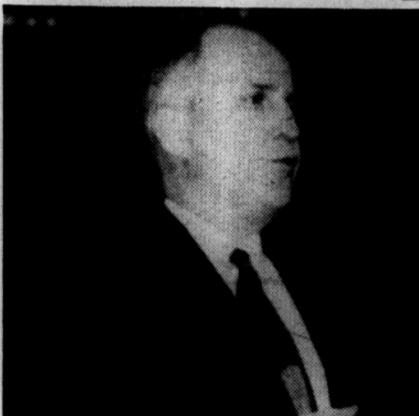
The Baptist Record

JOURNAL OF THE MISSISSIPPI BAPTIST CONVENTION

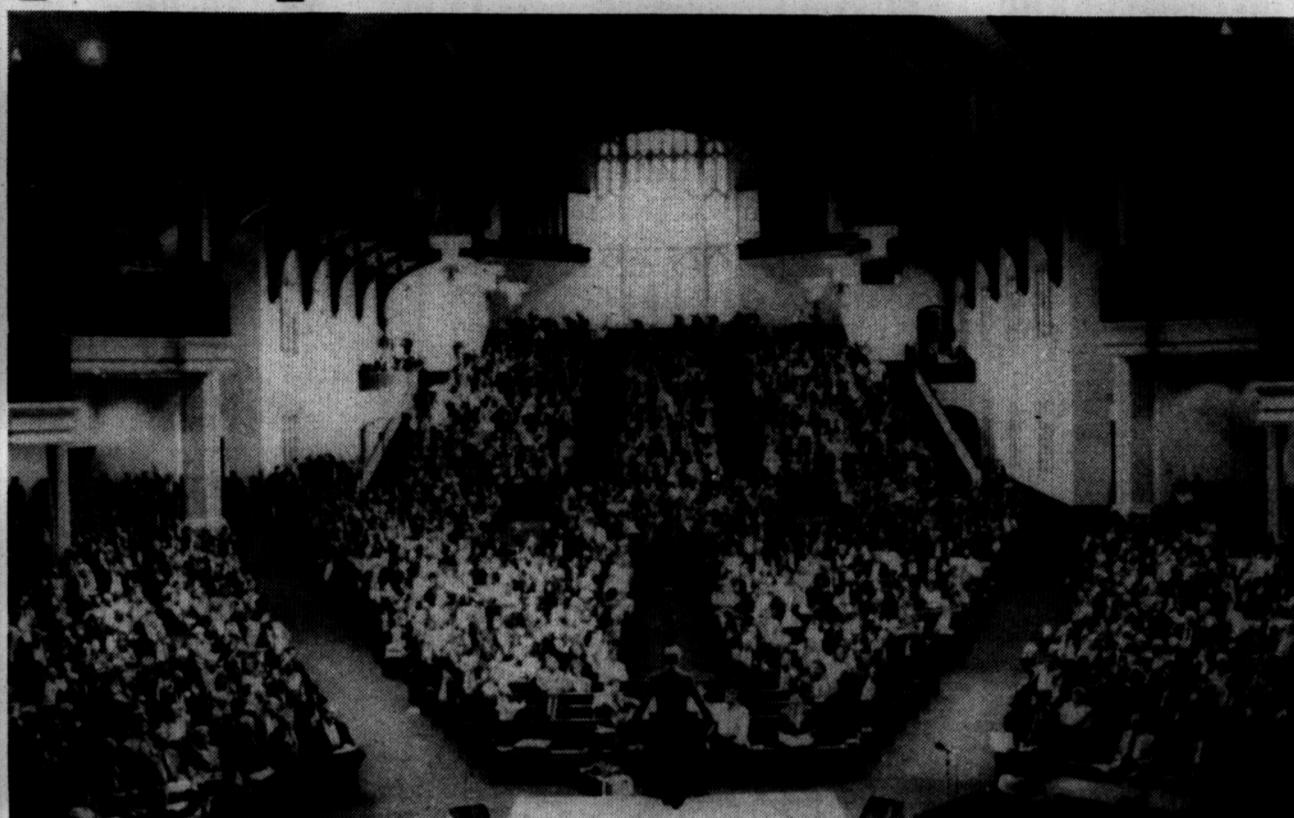
Thursday, November 10, 1994

Published Since 1877

Mississippi Baptists convene 159th session

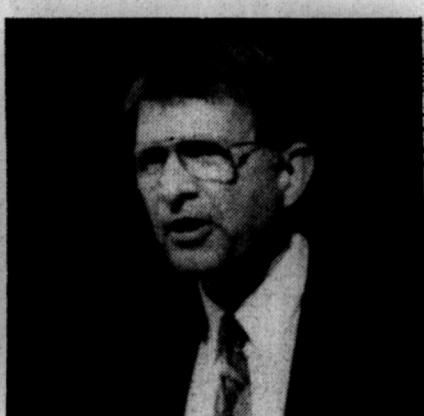


Phil Walker, pastor
Ridgecrest Church, Madison

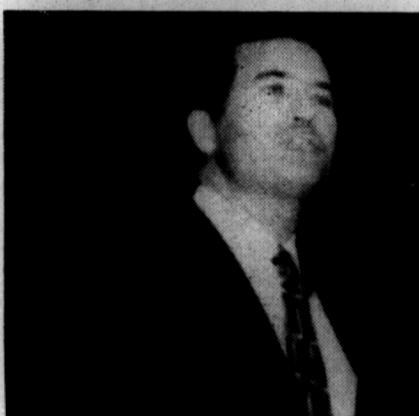


Kara Blackard, first vice president of the Mississippi Baptist Convention and pastor of Wheeler Grove Church in Alcorn Association, addresses messengers and guests who attended the 159th session of the convention Nov. 1-2 at First Church, Jackson. Regis-

tration officials counted 1,870 messengers who, along with guests, packed the 2,500-seat sanctuary of the downtown church. See inside pages for details. (Photos by William H. Perkins Jr. and Tim Nicholas)



Tom Lester, actor/producer
Laurel, Miss./Hollywood, Calif.



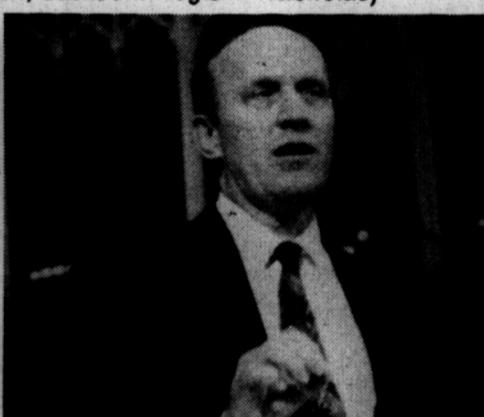
Dean Register, pastor
Temple Church, Hattiesburg



Jess Moody, pastor
Shepherd of the Hills Church
Van Nuys, Calif.



Henry Blackaby, SBC Home Mission Board



Denton Lotz, president, BWA



Carl Rees & Roberto Rodriguez, Mississippi/Honduras Partnership

Churches must comply

A new federal law will mandate drug and alcohol testing for all drivers who operate vans and buses requiring a commercial driver's license. The law will include, for the first time, all churches and other charitable organizations that operate buses and vans. Churches with more than 50 drivers must comply by Jan. 1, 1995; churches with fewer than 50 drivers have until Jan. 1, 1996, to comply. The complicated regulations stipulate five types of testing for each driver: pre-employment, post-accident, reasonable suspicion, random, and return-to-duty/follow-up. Additionally, the regulations require that churches qualify drivers, comply with hours-of-service requirements, perform certain maintenance functions, and register with the Federal Highway Administration. Churches must also mark each vehicle with the church's name, city, state, and U.S. Department of Transportation number. For additional information, write: Federal Highway Administration, Office of Motor Carrier Standards, Room 3107, 400 Seventh Street SW, Washington, DC 20590.

Authority, affection crucial

Combining consistent authority with heavy doses of affection gives parents their best chance to instill high self-esteem and traditional religious values, according to Kentucky mother Debbie Lloyd, an author and Woman's Missionary Union (WMU) leader. Lloyd, speaking in Birmingham, Ala., to a women's conference sponsored by the Southern Baptist Home Mission Board and Alabama WMU, stressed parents' responsibility to model God's justice and grace. "Children need to know God loves me just because, but there are some requirements of me. (Parents) must represent God not just as sovereign judge but as love," she said. Overbearing parents often produce children with a sense of alienation and low conformity to parental values, Lloyd said, while excessively permissive parents turn out rebellious children lacking in life direction. Parents who both nurture their children and exercise authority are most likely to instill self-control, responsibility for the welfare of others, and shared values with their parents, she pointed out.

Looking Back...

10 years ago

Southern Baptist and National Baptist women gather in Laurel to observe the annual Baptist Women's World Day of Prayer, attended last year by more than 450 people from the southeast Mississippi area.

20 years ago

William Carey College in Hattiesburg unveils refurbished portraits of the school's five presidents and three administrators during Founders Day ceremonies attended by more than 400 people.

50 years ago

The success of the 1944 Thanksgiving Offering has enabled the Mississippi Baptist Orphanage to pay all its bills on time and admit an additional 16 young boys and girls in need of a home.

Thursday, November 10, 1994

EDITOR'S NOTEBOOK

Guy Henderson

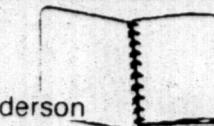


Fig trees without figs

Several noteworthy events made history at the state convention's annual meeting at First Church, Jackson, last week. It was obvious that Baptists love to study the Word and pray. Henry Blackaby opened up new vistas of the upper room and the upper attitude.

Concern was expressed over Christian higher education. Messengers spoke their convictions. While it was not always pleasant to hear, those convictions were things we need to get out in the open.

In the final analysis, we love our schools and are determined to keep them as a part of the convention. Mississippi College will continue to be a part of the convention and the vote was to continue to financially support it.

Missions is still a vital expression of winning the world to Jesus. Missionaries, home and foreign, were recognized. Den-

ton Lotz, general secretary of the Baptist World Alliance, spoke of a world of Baptists who are working to extend the Kingdom. Nepal — without missionaries — having 20 churches, 35 mission points, and 2,500 members, is the kind of news that will inspire the future William Careys of the church.

Convention Board Executive Director-Treasurer Bill Causey reminded us that the Baptist Building is really the Mississippi Mission Board. Over 7,000 Mississippians went out in volunteer mission projects in 1994, plus the missionary activities in our own communities. We are not to be fig trees without figs when there is a supernatural power available to all of us, said Causey. Simultaneous revivals and definite witnessing periods are coming in 1995.

Perhaps we need to sing, "I shall not be, I shall not be

moved," more often at the convention. There were 1,870 messengers registered and after the Mississippi College vote, there was an exodus. Also, after the vote to continue with the sale of the Clarke College campus, about one third of the messengers had business elsewhere. Of course, legitimate reasons to leave are valid, but still we could all wish for a bit more staying power.

Overall, there was a positive ring in the convention meeting. Rex Yancey presided with fairness and was sensitive to the desires of the messengers. Not everything went as we may have desired but the people gathered, expressed their convictions, and now we live with it.

The 159th was a good convention. As President Yancey said, "My challenge to the 1994 convention is that we get off of our sick beds and walk together."



Guest Opinion...

Single adult ministries are unrecognized, often ignored

By Robin Nichols

A number of weeks ago **The Baptist Record** received an unsigned letter from a single adult. The letter asked: "How can a Christian single living in a small town get to know other Christian singles?" The letter suggested a pen pal column for singles. The idea is noble.

The church cannot afford to ignore single adults. Many estimates predict that half of the adult population in the United States is single. It is evident that the entertainment industry has not ignored single adults. The clothing industry has not ignored single adults. Organizations and clubs make appeals to single adults.

Many single adults are multi-talented, highly educated, vocationally successful, and Christian. A survey of any church roll may indicate 50% of the adults as single. The tragedy is that many churches have ignored a ministry with single adults. Single adults are potential leaders in our churches. Within the last year I have talked with two single adults in different parts of the state who begged for help. Encouragement was all they needed. They thought that single adult ministry in a small town was not possible.

Much to their surprise they discovered single adults who thought the same thing.

A single adult ministry can begin with a single adult Sunday School class. This class can provide Bible study, fellowship, caring, and outreach. From there the single adults can begin any number of ministries that could include: mission trips, weekly Bible studies, teaching English, visiting nursing care centers, ministering to single-parent families, and helping the poor refurbish their homes. Numerous associations and statewide single adult meetings provide contact with singles from other towns and cities.

Single adults may be college students, career singles, separated, divorced, or widowed. Many unchurched single adults are discovering the church and some churches are discovering single adults. The two need each other; each has something wonderful to offer the other.

In **Single Adults: Resource and Recipients for Revival**, Dan Tanner said, "It's time we practiced what we preached. All over our nation millions of single adults are waiting for us to tell them that Jesus Christ and his

church are here for them, too. Whether they have that good news depends, finally, on you and me."

Resources are abundant for ministry with single adults. Numerous churches across our state have discovered a vital link with singles and the church. While there are only seven or eight full-time single adult ministers in Mississippi, there are hundreds of adults who volunteer as single adult leaders.

Church leadership can pray and ask the Lord to show specific ways to minister with single adults. The sky is the limit. Most ministries begin with a basic understanding of who the singles are in a church. Second, the church leadership begins to discover what basically can be done to involve the single adults in ministry. From there the single adults and the church work together to provide a Christian witness in the community.

Single parent families comprise just one area of single adult ministry. Some of their special concerns include: budgets, money management, and stewardship; work-related skills; parenting challenges; emotional struggles;

THE FRAGMENTS

Quips and quotes

"Mississippi must hold itself accountable... we have 2,000 churches and the second largest gambling center in America."

"Being self-centered will shut down the power of God," said Henry Blackaby... and another man implied that the fewer preachers on the trustee boards, the greater the wisdom.

Denton Lotz quoted Tony Campolo as saying we "come as we are, sing 'Just As I Am,' and leave just as we are."

The Blue Mountain College Choir sang "Love and Grace" in a most effective manner.... Plus the strong testimonies by lay leaders on the power and the uplift of the gospel.... Or consider the deacon who gave the preacher some

unhealthy self-esteem; relationship skills; and belonging.

The never-marrieds are the largest of the sub-groups among single adults. About half are under the age of 40. In reality, single adults and married adults are more alike than different. They have the same emotional needs — love, self-worth, belonging, companionship. Their physical needs are the same. The channel for meeting those needs is different.

Single adult ministry helps meet the needs of singles: to feel secure, achieve, feel accepted, make worthwhile contributions,

homemade cough syrup saying, "Preacher, I've been using this for 20 years, and haven't gotten over my cough yet..." And then, there was the robber who held up five men at a conference... the last man was Billy Graham. "Ain't you Billy Graham? Well here, I can't rob you. We Baptists must stick together."

And Gordon Sansing brought a hush over the crowd when he declared that in the experience of Jesus washing the feet of the disciples. "Do we sit down in the presence of God with dirty feet, because we have not resolved the things within our heart? It was not their feet that bothered Jesus, but their hearts." Amens were whispered all over the house. — GH

experience a challenge, and express ideas. Establishing pen pals is one of the ways single adults can be in contact with each other. Other ways include associational and statewide singles meetings. The church is capable of responding to the needs of single adults in a variety of ways. May God lead the church to discover the ministry with single adults through pen pals and a variety of other ministries.

Nichols is single adult consultant in the MBCB's Department of Discipleship and Family Ministry.

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Editor.....	Guy Henderson
Associate Editor.....	William H. Perkins Jr.
Advertising/News writer.....	Teresa Dickens
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Ministers' wives called to value roles, discipline

By Teresa Dickens

Speakers addressing the annual Conference of Mississippi Baptist Ministers' Wives challenged the women to see their role as important and to practice divine discipline. The meeting, held Monday afternoon prior to the Mississippi Baptist Convention, attracted 68 participants.

The ministers' wives attended two sessions during the gathering led by Lynda Street of Clinton and Rhonda Kelley of New Orleans. The program also included a fellowship time hosted by the Mississippi Woman's Missionary Union.

Street, who spoke on "And so what do you do," is an administrative assistant at Mississippi College and wife of Calvary Church, Jackson, Pastor James W. Street.

After asking the women to make a list of their tasks, she encouraged them to see each of their jobs as important. "God uses us in whatever place we are," she said. "We should not judge what we do by what others do. Rather, we should see our gifts and abilities as ways God can use us."

"We will be successful if we are committed to being what God

wants us to be," she said.

Street outlined eight marks of a successful woman. She builds and prizes human relationships, learns to be comfortable with who she is, finds her work fulfilling and worthwhile, prizes her non-material assets, manages her fears, sees her troubles as a learning experience, makes commitments, and builds a support system.

Kelley is author of the book *Divine Discipline* from which she drew her conference material. She is a speech pathologist and directs Innovative Evangelism with her

husband Chuck, a professor at New Orleans Seminary.

Expounding on self control as found in Galatians 5, Kelley said Christians "cannot witness effectively without being in control of our lives."

"Divine discipline," she explained, "is action on my part plus God's power."

Practicing self control contributes to an individual's personal development, spiritual growth, and Christian service, and relates to outward and inward behavior, she said.

Steps to maintaining self control and moving toward divine dis-

cipline involve exerting personal will power, practicing God's supernatural power, and receiving people's persuasive power, including acceptance, affirmation, and accountability.

However, the most important ingredient is perseverance, she said. "Living a God-controlled, disciplined life calls for a daily surrender of my words, deeds, thoughts, motives, and passions," Kelley said.

The ministers' wives conference is sponsored by the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board's Church Administration-Pastoral Ministries Department.

THE SECOND FRONT PAGE

The Baptist Record

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Convention messengers resolve tough MC issues

By Tim Nicholas

Mississippi Baptists, meeting in their 159th annual session Nov. 1-2 at First Church, Jackson, declined after intense debate to change the way they fund Mississippi College and agreed to extend the sale of Clarke College in Newton another 60 days to reach closing.

Mississippi College (MC) in Clinton has been the subject of much discussion since September, when trustees changed the charter to make themselves a self-perpetuating board with only one-fourth of the trustees elected by the Mississippi Baptist Convention (MBC).

The charter change was amended after negotiations with convention leadership which would allow for joint approval of trustees by the MC trustees and the convention's nominating committee.

Some messengers, unhappy with any change that prevents direct and unhindered election of trustees from the floor of the convention, suggested either a change in the way the college is funded or to escrow these funds — about \$2 million per year out of MC's total budget of nearly \$30 million — until the former system is re-established.

However, a clear majority of messengers voted to continue the funding system unchanged. Messengers did vote to ask for a study of the charters of other convention institutions to make certain that what happened at MC would not happen again.

The campus of Clarke College, a Baptist-affiliated junior college in Newton which closed in 1992, has been for sale by MBC for the

past two years.

A special committee charged with finding a buyer recommended to messengers that the property be sold to Deep South Family Film Institute for \$1 million.

Messengers approved the sale and allowed the institute another 60 days to escrow the \$1 million sale price and to complete closing of the sale.

In other business, the 1,870 messengers approved a 1995 Cooperative Program (CP) budget of \$22.6 million.

The amount going to SBC causes outside the state is \$8,364,434,

and also expressed discontent with the MC trustee actions.

Messengers again expressed disapproval of gambling — particularly efforts to legalize land-based casinos — in Mississippi, which is rated as the number two gambling state in the nation.

MBC officers re-elected by acclamation to one year terms were Rex Yancey, pastor of First Church, Pascagoula, president; Kara Blackard, pastor of Wheeler Grove Church, Corinth, first vice president; Richard Johnson, pastor of Parkview Church, Greenville, second vice president; and J.W. Brister, retired director of missions for Hinds-Madison Association, recording secretary.

Associate recording secretary Levon Moore, retired director of missions for Attala Association, resigned because of eye problems. Elected to replace him was David Sellers, pastor of Tylertown Church, Tylertown.

Yancey named the 1995 committee on committees: Bartis Harper of Lumberton, George Berger of Hattiesburg, Jerry Mixon of Lucedale, Clarence Cooper of Grenada, and Thad Moore of Holly Springs. The committee appoints several other committees, including the committee on nominations.

The 1995 convention will meet at First Church, Jackson, Oct. 31-Nov. 1. Jimmy Porter, pastor of First Church, McComb, will preach the convention sermon. Randy Bostick, pastor of Oakland Church, Corinth, is alternate.

Expanded coverage on page 4.

or 37%, which is the same percentage given last year. However, because of a \$154,579 budget increase, the SBC portion was increased by \$57,194.

Resolutions approved by messengers applauded negotiations that brought Mississippi College back into convention governance

Charlotte Causey (standing), wife of Mississippi Baptist Convention Board Executive Director Bill Causey, was among those who greeted ministers' wives during their annual conference prior to the Mississippi Baptist Convention. (Photo by William H. Perkins Jr.)

Newspaper: Baylor committee ready to nominate president

WACO, Texas (BP) — A special meeting of Baylor University's board of regents has been called Nov. 17-18 to consider a nominee for the university's presidency, the Waco (Texas) Tribune-Herald reported Nov. 5.

According to the newspaper, "Many believe the search committee will recommend Thomas E. Corts, currently the president of Samford University in Birmingham, Ala."

However, the newspaper noted, one unnamed Baylor professor warned "that last week's rumor mill was cranking out an entirely different name: Paul Powell," president of the Annuity Board.

Baylor President Herbert Reynolds confirmed the special called meeting to consider a nominee from the search committee, but would not speculate on possible nominees.

Reynolds, 64, Baylor president since 1981 who will retire May 31, 1995, confirmed a written notice was mailed the week of Oct. 31 by Gale Galloway, an Austin business executive and newly elected Baylor regents chairman, calling the meeting "to receive, review, and fully discuss the report of the Presidential Succession Committee and, if deemed necessary by the regents, to vote on the committee's

recommendations."

Corts has been Samford's president since 1983 and, earlier, president of Wingate College in North Carolina for nine years. He was instrumental in leading Samford's board of trustees in a change of Samford's charter Sept. 13 to a self-perpetuating board rather than one selected by the Alabama State Convention. Corts is the brother of John Corts, president of the Billy Graham Evangelistic Association, and Mark Corts, longtime pastor of Calvary Church, Winston-Salem, N.C., and former chairman of the Foreign Mission Board trustees.

Powell, Annuity Board president since 1990, was a member of Baylor's trustees when they moved to self-perpetuating status as a board of regents in 1990 rather than continuing the traditional trustee selection process through the Baptist General Convention of Texas. Powell then was elected the first chairman of the new regents board and led the regents through a period of negotiations with Baptist General Convention of Texas leaders to a 1991 agreement for Baylor to name 75% of its regents and the convention to name the other 25%.

A majority vote by Baylor's 36 regents will be required to elect a new president, the Waco newspaper reported.



Messengers affirm MC funding; vote to sell Clarke

By Tim Nicholas

Mississippi College and Clarke College were at the center of virtually all the business handled by messengers to the 159th session of the Mississippi Baptist Convention at First Church, Jackson on Nov. 1-2.

Some messengers, raw over the abrupt charter change by Mississippi College (MC) trustees in September that created a self-perpetuating board of trustees, were not completely happy with a negotiated settlement which gave joint approval of new trustees to MC trustees and the Mississippi Baptist Convention (MBC) committee on nominations.

That unhappiness came in the form of several motions which would have changed or interrupted the \$2 million per year funding of MC through the Cooperative Program.

At the beginning of the business session Jim Futral, chairman of the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board's (MBCB) executive committee and pastor of Broadmoor Church in Jackson, told messengers, "You must look beyond your rage."

Futral said if the case against the trustees had gone to court, "everyone involved would lose." He said that the trustees in their original charter change "broke faith with Mississippi Baptists," but that the new agreement needs an opportunity to work.

MBCB member Dennis McKay, pastor of Immanuel Church in Greenwood, quoted MC trustee chairman Harry Vickery of Greenville as saying in *The Clarion-Ledger* newspaper of Jackson that trustees have the ultimate say in trustee election.

An earlier story in *The Baptist Record* newspaper noted that although the agreement allows MC to elect trustees in the event of an impasse with the MBCB nominating committee, MBCB Executive Director-Treasurer Bill Causey said the verbal agreement "is that any openings following a

convention will have joint approval between the trustees and the executive committee."

MBCB attorney Roland Marble chronicled the negotiations. He said that on Sept. 28, the convention board filed suit to seek a change back to the original charter. Trial was set for Oct. 17.

Personal negotiations began on Oct. 1. Causey, Vickery, and legal counsel met Oct. 4 at Lake Tiak O'Khata near Kosciusko. On Oct. 13, the MBCB executive committee, the state Baptist Education Commission, and MBCB agreed on the restatement of the charter. MC trustees agreed on Oct. 14.

Marble said, "Men of good will can agree to work out their differences as they go along." Marble then made reference to the need for MC trustees to be mostly lay people who can handle high finances, as opposed to ministers.

MBCB member Marty Evans, pastor of Yellow Leaf Church in Lafayette Association, asked what happens if MBC only elects seven of the eight trustees. Marble said that according to the written agreement, the trustees have the right to fill any opening.

MBCB member John Allen, pastor of First Church in Richton, asked if a person could be nominated from the floor of the convention. Marble said only if jointly approved by trustees and the nominating committee.

The next item of business concerned a bylaw change suggested by the MBCB executive committee and recommended by the MBC constitution and bylaws committee.

The change would format the bylaws to parallel the new system with MC of having joint approval between any Mississippi Baptist institution's trustees and the nominating committee before election at the convention.

Acting chairman R.P. Sugg withdrew the recommendation,

saying the idea was a mistake.

"We are involving other institutions in a dispute they are not involved in," he said. He added that with all groups working together concerning MC, in a year "with mature deliberations changes can be acted on."

Evans moved that MBC suggest the Education Commission change its formula to count MC students as one half, Blue Mountain College and William Carey College students as one and a half, with Blue Mountain and Carey ministerial students and their dependents who are students counted as two. This would have greatly decreased the allocation to MC.

Evans said if the MC trustees are acting as an autonomous group, they are not in the same relationship to the convention as the other two colleges.

"The less control we have, the less money you will receive," he said.

MBCB member Carl White, pastor of Clarksdale Church in Clarksdale, opposed the motion.

"After 15 years of controversy, forces are pushing our institutions apart. To ignore it is to bury our head in the sand. What happened among us is something God has done that perhaps paves the way for our convention nationwide," he said.

A substitute to that motion was presented by Jim Hill, pastor of Immanuel Church in Natchez, that would have suspended all allocations to MC other than to ministerial students through the state Baptist Board of Ministerial Education "until the charter provides for election of trustees by the convention solely and finally."

Hill said what the MC trustees did was "sin, ungodliness."

Andy Taggart, a layman from Jackson, spoke against the substitute, and disputed calling the MC trustees ungodly. Bill Kent, pastor of Providence Church in Franklin Association, favored the substitute.

L.D. Brown, pastor of Christ Church in Greenwood, opposed both motions, saying the convention should give the parties a year to solve the problems. After a year, he said, "if we cannot elect (trustees), as far as I'm concerned we no longer have MC."

Bobby Hood of Meridian offered a substitute to the substitute motion "that the present agreement be allowed to stand for one year." John Allen opposed it, saying accountability needed to be shown in a tangible way. The substitute to the substitute failed.

Kiely Young, pastor of First Church in Gulfport, and Marty Evans supported tabling the discussion to the next business session on Wednesday, a motion which passed.

The next day, MC trustee Jimmy Porter, pastor of First Church in McComb who had



Clark Stewart (right), pastor of Harmony Church in Copiah Association, was chosen as president-elect of the Mississippi Baptist Pastors' Conference Oct. 31 during the organization's annual meeting prior to the Mississippi Baptist Convention's 159th session in Jackson. Randy Turner (left), outgoing president of the conference, congratulates Stewart on his election by acclamation. Dean Register (not pictured), pastor of Temple Church in Hattiesburg, will serve as president of the conference for the coming year. (Photo by William H. Perkins Jr.)

opposed the original charter change, said the question of real ownership of MC hadn't been resolved.

"I believe the reason it could not be worked out is because God owns it," he said.

Porter said if the money is escrowed or lessened, the real hurt would be to the students, faculty, and staff.

"If you want to question the lineage of the trustees, that's fine. If you want to offer us up as unsavory sacrifices, that's fine," he said, but don't hurt those not involved in the controversy.

MBC second vice-president Richard Johnson, pastor of Parkview Church in Greenville, favored withholding the funds.

The substitute motion failed on a show of hands and Evans withdrew his original motion, saying he just wanted the issue to be discussed.

Dennis McKay made a motion that Causey, MBCB, and legal counsel examine the charters of other MBC institutions to "insure that actions similar to those taken by trustees of Mississippi College be averted in the future," and to report back to MBC next year.

He said that "moneyed people" are taking over the boards "with strings attached to these gifts." He said that they are funding "what you and I ought to have been doing all that time."

Outgoing MBC associate recording secretary Levon Moore, a retired pastor from Kosciusko, opposed McKay's implications of the motives of MC donors.

McKay's motion passed on a ballot vote by 645 to 379.

The final major order of business concerned the former Clarke College property in Newton.

The convention board had approved sale of the property to the Deep South Family Film Institute. In business session, MBCB

secretary Frank Smith, pastor of Sunrise Church in Leake Association, recommended the sale for \$1 million.

Lamar McDonald, a layman from Meridian, asked the convention to give the sale 60 days to close.

Benny Still, pastor of Poplar Springs Church in Simpson Association, opposed the sale, noting that the Clarke Christian Education Corporation, of which he is secretary, had asked to purchase the property.

The organization would aid terminated ministers and offer educational opportunities to bivocational ministers. Still said he had \$70,000 in cash and pledges in the past six weeks, less than half of which was accessible in cash.

Larry Otis, a layman from Tupelo who served as chairman of the special committee selling the Clarke property, told messengers the committee would have considered the sale if Still's group had come up with \$100,000 down.

Levon Moore, vice chair of the committee, said that in two years of inviting concrete proposals, the film company's was the only one on the table and contradicted Still's statement, saying Still's proposal and fund raising efforts were made a year and a half ago and not in a matter of six weeks.

Nelson Crozier, pastor of Sharon First Church in Jones Association, opposed the sale to the film company because it is not a distinctively Christian program.

The amendment and motion carried to sell the property to the film company with the additional 60 days to close the sale.

Denton Lotz, general secretary of the Baptist World Alliance, spoke immediately after the business session. As he approached the podium, a large number of participants left the auditorium.

Quipped Lotz, "I almost didn't make it through the stampede."



The Mississippi Conference of Directors of Missions (DOMs) met and elected new officers during the 1994 annual meeting of the Mississippi Baptist Convention in Jackson. Chosen to serve the conference for the coming year were (from left) Roger Dorsett, Tishomingo DOM, secretary-treasurer; Dale Little, Adams DOM, president; and George Berger, Lebanon DOM, president-elect. (Photo by Tim Nicholas)

Kelley: planting seed a must to reap a spiritual harvest

By Teresa Dickens

The key to experiencing a spiritual harvest in the United States is for Christians to take seriously their responsibility to spread the seed of the gospel, New Orleans Seminary Professor Chuck Kelley told the nearly 400 people who attended the Lay Missions Conference Banquet Oct. 31.

The banquet, sponsored by the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board's Brotherhood Department and Woman's Missionary Union, closed the annual conference which highlights mission organizations and opportunities for laity.

Prior to Kelley's message, participants heard greetings from Zimbabwean Pastor Isaac Chigede and his wife Sophie, and testimonies by mission volunteers David and Ann Sneed of Eupora, Richard Ford of Louisville, and

Gene and Betty Dobbs of Clinton.

Citing the actions of the church in Acts, Kelley said, "The task Jesus left with the young church could have been overwhelming. Instead, they said, 'Let's go for it.'"

But, he noted, the church in Acts did not go alone. First, they sought God's help and guidance through strategic praying. They did not ask God to "bless" their efforts, rather they asked God "how" to fulfill his task, he explained.

Then, when the church grew too large for the disciples to meet all the needs, they involved the laity. "This was successful because the laity was willing to participate and willing to receive the ministry of each other," he said.

"Their strategy worked," Kelley

suggested. "This young church brought the Roman Empire to its knees."

The Southern Baptist Convention could do the same in America, Kelley said. But, it must first seek God's plan and then, involve the laity.

"We like to hear about the Great Commission," Kelley remarked, "but we are not willing to be involved in fulfilling it."

"The SBC is a harvest-oriented denomination living in the midst of an unseeded generation," he declared. "We want a harvest without planting."

"Are you ready to be a bearer of the seed? Are you willing to let God do something through you?" he asked the crowd. "Oh that we would answer as that young church did. 'Let's go for it.'"

Alabama board refuses proposal to shift convention site and date

MONTGOMERY, Ala. (BP) — The Alabama State Board of Missions came to the brink of declaring the convention in a state of emergency Oct. 28, finally rejecting a proposal to cancel the upcoming convention and move it from Mobile to Huntsville.

By a 44-29 vote, the board turned down a recommendation by the executive committee, which had voted 11-7 earlier in the day to postpone the convention until Nov. 29, move it to Huntsville and hold a "solemn assembly" in place of the scheduled convention meeting in Mobile.

Executive Secretary Troy Morrison pleaded for the proposal to be adopted, saying a memorandum by University of Mobile President Michael Magnoli caused a crisis that threatened the convention's integrity.

Magnoli's memorandum, to the university's staff, faculty, and students — along with a letter to pastors sent by two UM officials — praised presidential candidate Fred Lackey as a friend "who is worthy of our consideration." The memo

also urged students to attend the convention and promised to provide "a fact sheet noting the crucial issues and the times they occur on the program."

Lackey, pastor of First Church, Athens, apparently will face former Executive Secretary A. Earl Potts for president.

"It is our opinion that this is the most potentially destructive instrument that has ever occurred in the history of the Alabama State Convention," said Morrison, who said he had received hundreds of phone calls and letters. "I have never heard such venom, hatred, bitterness, and anger that comes from the lips and hearts of pastors."

But Magnoli said his memo wasn't intended to make a political statement and that convention officials had created a crisis that didn't exist.

"Can you validate in your heart that the University of Mobile has created a emergency in this convention that justifies moving the convention more than 600 miles away?" Magnoli asked. "Where is the emergency that exists? Why

are we tilting at windmills? Why are we shooting at ghosts that don't exist?"

Magnoli said the specially called session was an example of the convention's "double standard" in treating Samford University and the University of Mobile. Earlier in the month, the state board had voted to hire an attorney and appoint a committee to deal with the actions of the Samford board of trustees, which voted Sept. 13 to elect its own successors.

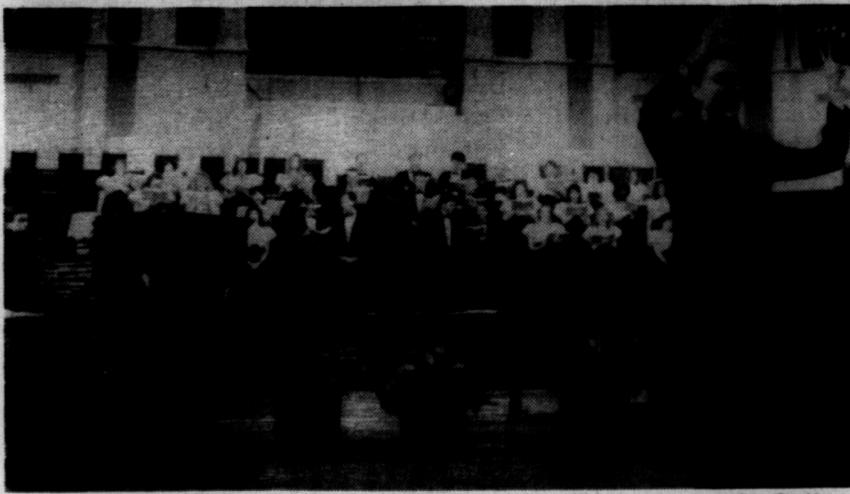
"No entity head has ever endorsed a candidate or threatened to organize its employees or student body in an attempt to disrupt the orderly process of a state convention by voting as a block or by changing the budgeting process on the floor of the convention," Morrison said.

Morrison, who said the bylaws allow an "emergency state" to be declared, said he consulted only with board of missions chairman Leon Ballard, convention President Dewey Corder, and Education Commission chairman James Moebes in making the proposal.

His voice breaking at times, Morrison said his life had been threatened by one caller.

"You must take whatever action is necessary, however drastic," he said. "I cannot express the urgency of your action. Any wavering can create havoc. It would be totally disastrous to try to have the convention in Mobile. We can go to Mobile to pray. Let's go to Huntsville for our business."

Lackey, a member of the executive committee, raised a point of personal privilege and was permitted to speak to the proposal. Lackey said he knows of no attempts to organize a campaign on his behalf and disputed newspaper articles that implied "severe consequences" for Samford if he were elected.



Gay Gandy (foreground), director of the Blue Mountain College Chorale, leads messengers to the 159th session of the Mississippi Baptist Convention in congregational singing during the Wednesday afternoon session. The chorale (background) sang just before the college's report to the convention, delivered by Blue Mountain President Harold Fisher. (Photo by William H. Perkins Jr.)

Thursday, November 10, 1994

BAPTIST RECORD PAGE 5



Mississippi Baptist Convention officers for 1994-95 are (from left): David Sellers, pastor of Tylertown Church, Tylertown, associate recording secretary; J.W. Brister, retired director of missions for Hinds-Madison Association, recording secretary; Rex Yancey, pastor of First Church, Pascagoula, president; Kara Blackard, pastor of Wheeler Grove Church, Corinth, first vice president; and Richard Johnson, pastor of Parkview Church, Greenville, second vice president. (Photo by Tim Nicholas)

Texas conservatives organize opposition

By Chuck Lindell

AMARILLO, Texas (ABP) — Conservative Texas Baptists, angered after losing another key vote at the annual Baptist General Convention of Texas, have resolved to better organize and perhaps form a separate convention populated by conservative churches.

With statements such as "I've had a bellyful" and "I'm tired of working with these people," several pastors called for an outright split from the moderate-dominated Texas convention.

Others in the crowd of about 175 — many of them pastors — at the late Oct. 31 meeting of the Texas Conservative Baptist Fellowship called for a less radical approach — the formation of a loose-knit organization to promote conservative causes.

Advocates of both approaches called on pastors from the state's leading conservative churches — including O.S. Hawkins from First Church of Dallas, Ralph Smith from Hyde Park Church in Austin, and John Bisagno of First Church of Houston — to define and lead the organization.

"We will pursue that incorporation... but that's down the road," Miles Seaborn, president of the Texas Conservative Baptist Fellowship, told those gathered.

MBC approves new relief unit

The Mississippi Baptist Convention Board has approved purchase and outfitting of a new disaster relief mobile feeding unit at a cost of up to \$65,000.

The present unit has been in service since 1978 and is a 1956 model 40-foot single axle trailer. A committee of experienced disaster relief personnel determined that the present unit has deteriorated beyond efficient repair and that the safety of the unit is in question. The presently owned tractor will pull the new unit.

The new unit will be a 48-foot double axle 1985 Great Dane Electronic Van. A new generator will be a part of the purchase. It will be a 30 KW standby, 25 KW continuous generator.

The new unit will have the capability of utilizing a more modern field kitchen including rice cookers, tilt skillets, and a steam kettle. Need for this equipment has been realized in disasters where 15-20,000 meals per day have been required.

Cost of the purchase will come from disaster relief funds which are a part of the Mississippi Baptist Margaret Lackey State Mission Offering. Paul Harrell, who directs the disaster relief program, said that interested persons may contribute directly to the cost of the new unit. Write Harrell at P.O. Box 530, Jackson, MS, 39205.

Report of committees on nominations, committees

MISSISSIPPI BAPTIST CONVENTION 100-MEMBER BOARD

* Indicates "at large" members.

Underlined if a new term or new member filling unexpired term.

Bold if serving on executive committee.

TERM EXPIRES 1995 - (10 at large members*)

Adams	Odean Puckett *	Natchez
Adams	Steve Purvis	Natchez
Alcorn	Randy Bostick	Corinth
Benton-Tippah	Roy Bostick	Hickory Flat
Benton-Tippah	Charles Davis	Ripley
Itawamba	Howard Peak	Fulton
Hinds-Madison	Glenn Calloway *	Jackson
Jackson	Peggy Davis *	Moss Point
Lawrence	Paul E. Smith *	Monticello
Lee	Robert Upchurch *	Tupelo
Marion	Gerald Keith Gordon	Columbia
Marshall	Thad Moore	Holly Springs
Newton	Charles Melton	Newton
North Delta	Carl White	Clarksdale
Oktibbeha	Don Blasingame *	Starkville
Oktibbeha	Hal Selby	Starkville
Prentiss	Ben Parman	Booneville
Rankin	G. Ricky Gray	Pearl
Rankin	Gene Henderson *	Brandon
Sharkey-Issa	Joann Whitten	Valley Park
Sharkey-Issa	Reese Kyzar	Rolling Fork
Simpson	Oliver Ladnier *	Magee
Simpson	Kermit McGregor	Mendenhall
Sunflower	Bobby Kirk	Doddsville
Tallahatchie	Gary Adams	Charleston
Tishomingo	Tommy Purvis	Belmont
Union	Charles Tyler	Vicksburg
Walhall	Robert O. Jones	Tylertown
Washington	Virgil Wells *	Greenville
Wayne	Arthur Lee Nored	Waynesboro
Webster	Elton Chapman	Maben
Yalobusha	Troy Hurdle	Water Valley
Yazoo	Jerry Alexander	Yazoo City
Pearl River	Jesse Guess *	Poplarville

TERM EXPIRES 1996 - (3 at large members*)

Bolivar	Tommy Arinder	Cleveland
Calhoun	Dale Easley	Vardaman
Chickasaw	David Kendall	Houston
Choctaw	David Grisham	Ackerman
Clarke	Albert H. McMullen	Stonewall
Clay	Troy Land	West Point
Copiah	Leroy Brewer Jr.	Crystal Springs
Covington	Jimmie Baggett	Collins
Franklin	Darnell Archie	Bude
Gulf Coast	Ed Deusche	Bay St. Louis
Gulf Coast	David W. Spencer	Long Beach
Gulf Coast	Charley Rempel	Wiggins
Gulf Coast	George Holifield *	Biloxi
Hinds-Madison	Jim Futral	Jackson
Hinds-Madison	John Temple	Madison
Hinds-Madison	Charles Gladney *	Madison
Humphreys	Bill Hudson	Belzoni
Jackson	Dennis Ray Smith	Pascagoula
Kemper	Jack Davis	DeKalb
Lafayette	Marty J. Evans Jr.	Oxford
Leake	Frank Smith	Carthage
Lowndes	Tim Williams	Columbus
Mississippi	Dan Howard	Woodville
Neshoba	Curtis Guess	Union
New Choctaw	Calvin Gibson *	Philadelphia
Northwest	Randy Mobley	Nesbit
Noxubee	Lee Castle	Macon
Panola	Jerry Sanford	Sardis
Pike	A.C. Garner Jr.	Tylertown
Pontotoc	James Francis	Pontotoc
Smith	Lyn Nations	Mize
Union	Leslie Hicks	Port Gibson
Union County	Dean Timbes	New Albany
Warren	James C. Hess	Vicksburg

TERM EXPIRES 1997 - (5 at large members*)

Attala	J. Danny Dodds	Kosciusko
Carroll	Claver Blair	Carrollton
George	Gary Strehlow	Lucedale
Greene	Jay Turner	Leakesville
Grenada	Everette Martin	Grenada
Hinds-Madison	Sue Dockery *	Jackson
Holmes	Jerry Bishop	Durant

MISSISSIPPI BAPTIST CONVENTION 100-MEMBER BOARD

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Underlined if a new term or new member filling unexpired term.

Bold if serving on executive committee.

TERM EXPIRES 1995 - (10 at large members*)

Jasper	David McKee	Heidelberg
Jeff Davis	Joe Dale	Prentiss
Jones	Bob Scott	Laurel
Lamar	Glenn Davis	Sumrall
Lamar	Bartis Harper *	Lumberton
Lauderdale	Bob Simmons	Meridian
Lauderdale	William B. Webb *	Meridian
Lawrence	Mike Reid	Jayess
Lebanon	W.A. Fordham	Petal
Lebanon	Betty Howard *	Hattiesburg
Lee	Ken Anderson	Saltillo
Leflore	Dennis McKay	Greenwood
Lincoln	Robert Perry	Brookhaven
Mississippi	David Luce	Smithdale
Monroe	George Blakney	Hamilton
Montgomery	Dewitt Cutts	Weir
North Delta	Harvey Sewell	Crowder
North Delta	Jack Wilkes	Tunica
Northwest	Burnette Fielder	Coldwater
Northwest	Steve Bennett *	Southaven
Pearl River	Warren Barnett	Carriere
Perry	John Allen	Richton
Scott	S.A. (Sonny) Adkins	Forest
Washington	James Sanders	Greenville
Winston	J.W. Williams	Louisville

BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS 1995-1997

* Beginning a new term.

Underlined if not on board last year.

** Completing an unexpired term.

BOARD OF MINISTERIAL EDUCATION

James Ruffin		Meridian
Dell Scoper		Laurel
Louise Griffith		Clinton
		Term expires 1996
Joseph T. Campbell		Hattiesburg
LuAnne Ford		Booneville
Ernest C. Turcotte Jr.		Clinton
		Term expires 1997
David Millican *		McComb
James A. Hurt Jr. *		Clinton
Gary Fordham *		Petal

CHRISTIAN ACTION COMMISSION

Jim Brannon		Meridian
Clayton Bath		Port Gibson
Clifton Porter		Rolling Fork
Jim Beckett		Bruce
Jimmy McGee		Monticello
		Term expires 1996
Johnny Walker		Winona
Tommy Naron		Cleveland
Bobbie Foster		Prentiss
Eddie Jones		Greenville
Tommy Tutor		Clarksdale
		Term expires 1997
Tommy Miller *		Pascagoula
Ralph Culp *		Golden
Vickie McCall *		Clinton
Kendall Moore *		Jackson
Joann Gandy *		Corinth

EDUCATION COMMISSION

Charles Pickering		Taylorsville
Horace Holmes		Summit
Raymon Leake		Picayune
Gayle Alexander		Tupelo
		Term expires 1996
Ann Hardy		Jackson
Bobby Douglas		Columbus
Jim Phillips		Greenwood
Randy Turner		Laurel
		Term expires 1997
Doug Herring *		Hattiesburg
Robert E. Self *		Brookhaven
John McCarty *		Brandon
Eddie Kinchen *		Terry

HISTORICAL COMMISSION

Jack Gunn		Cleveland
Cathy Jeffcoat		Jackson
J.C. Mitchell		Columbus

Term expires 1996

Richard Ethridge		Decatur
Talmadge Smith		Brookhaven
Peggy Huey		Hattiesburg
		Term expires 1997
Dan Wynn *		Natchez
Bobby Walton *		Benoit
Wayne Gullett *		Calhoun City

THE BAPTIST CHILDREN'S VILLAGE

Term expires 1995

Robert King		Jackson
Glyn Hester		Nettleton
Talmadge Rayborn		Waveland
Gary O. Parker		Brandon
Billy Pyron		Natchez
</		

Letters to the editor

Explanation of action

Editor:

I am a pastor who loves preaching and ministering to the gracious people of my congregation. Until this year, I had never involved myself in the business matters (beyond voting) at the Mississippi Baptist Convention. Tuesday, when I introduced a substitute motion to freeze giving to Mississippi College until the convention was allowed to elect its trustees unconditionally, I only sought to offer another avenue

of resolving the current crisis between the convention and Mississippi College. I never wanted Mississippi College to lose funding for even one moment, but wanted to coerce its trustees to restore the responsibilities and privileges that rightfully belong to the Mississippi Baptist Convention. The wise and gracious messengers of the Mississippi Baptist Convention chose another avenue. The godly people of Mississippi elected to love, wait, pray, and continue trusting our trustees to do the right thing. I fully

believe that our Lord was glorified and pleased with the decision of Mississippi Baptists. I encourage all Mississippi Baptists to pray and lovingly support Bill Causey, our convention board, and Mississippi College trustees as they continue to negotiate this matter. I also encourage the trustees of Mississippi College to take a long, hard look at the graciousness of the Mississippi Baptist Convention who will always love and protect the best interest of its students, faculty, and trustees.

I would also like to express my personal appreciation and respect to [Bill] Causey and our convention board. These men have always sought the best for our Convention. They are my (our) heroes. I pledge my full love and support to them as they continue to lead our state in God's wisdom.

Jim Hill, pastor
Immanuel Church, Natchez

Show of disapproval

Editor:

I strongly disapprove of the action taken by the supposed board of trustees at Mississippi College. I say "supposed" board of trustees because Henry Hederman who made the motion to take this action was not an elected trustee to the board at Mississippi College. Harry Vickery stated that the purpose was to remove the college from "denominational politics." This is a smoke screen and even our present Baptist leadership acknowledges this was not a danger.

What these men desire is to wrest control and direction of Mississippi College from the Convention. They have succeeded! The present agreement gives them "ultimate say" as Harry Vickery stated in *The Clarion-Ledger*.

We lusted for prominence, recognition, and prestige, and this is

the result. We elected monied trustees to the board. They in turn wanted a fundraiser, so Lewis Nobles was hired as president. We lusted for a national championship in football. We got the whole ball of wax and what has happened? The president supposedly embezzled our funds, the NCAA strips the college of its national championship, and the trustees take over the college.

God, as June Cash told Johnny, "just busted our breeches!" It's time we repent and start looking to the living God for our needs.

Dennis McKay, pastor
Immanuel Church, Greenwood

Apology for error

Editor:

At our recent state convention [meeting] I nominated Richard Johnson to be our second vice president. I was delighted that he was re-elected without opposition and by acclamation. However, it has come to my attention that during my nominating speech I was inaccurate with some statistics. I deeply regret that and want to publicly apologize to anyone I may have hurt, misled, or embarrassed. My intent was never to offend in these ways.

Greg Martin, pastor
Commission Road Church
Long Beach

HEALTHCARING

FORTHE RECORD

NOVEMBER IS NATIONAL DIABETES AWARENESS MONTH

MBMC Diabetes Learning Center offers help with managing diabetes.

This month, Mississippi Baptist Medical Center is placing additional emphasis on diabetes — in recognition of the 14 million Americans that currently have the disease. Special classes and seminars are being offered by MBMC's Diabetes Learning Center, the only Mississippi diabetes program recognized by the American Diabetes Association.

• Diabetes Exercise Program

Meets once a month

• Healthy Holiday Choices

November 10th

• Blood Glucose Screening

November 15th

• Jackson-area Diabetes Educators Networking Group

November 16th

• Insulin Pump Support Group

November 17th

• Diabetes Support Group

December 6th

• Holiday Cooking From Around The World

December 15th

• Diabetes Self-management Skills

Ongoing group & individual instructions

Although diabetes cannot currently be cured, it can be controlled

through diet, exercise and medication. Early detection of the disease's warning signs is essential. Insulin-dependent diabetes, most frequent in children and young adults, is characterized by these signs:

- Frequent urination
- Abnormal thirst
- Unusual hunger
- Rapid loss of weight
- Irritability
- Obvious weakness & fatigue
- Nausea & vomiting

Non-insulin-dependent diabetes is most frequent in adults over age 40 and is related to the risk factors of obesity and a family history of the disease. While it's possible that no symptoms may be present, common signs frequently include:

- Drowsiness
- Itching
- Blurred vision
- Tingling, numbness in feet
- Abnormal fatigue
- Skin infections & slow healing

If you would like more information on diabetes or any of the classes listed, please call The Diabetes Learning Center at 948-MBMC (6262) or 1-800-948-MBMC (6262).

The Diabetes Learning Center



MISSISSIPPI BAPTIST MEDICAL CENTER

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LifeAnswers
*Ron Mumbower, Ed.D.
Minister of Counseling
First Church, Jackson*

I made the mistake of putting career before family. Can I now develop relationships with my adult children who are resentful and distant?

Most people can handle openness and truth better than distance. Your children need to hear you say, "I'm sorry." It's never too late to start a new relationship, but doing so will take time. Your children have become distant to protect themselves from further hurt. Beyond saying, "I'm sorry," they must see your change of heart in action. They don't need your money or material things. They need your time. They may be skeptical at first, but be consistent and they will eventually warm up to you. Parental involvement early in a child's life is much better than waiting until the child is an adult to develop a relationship. Research shows that the more involved a parent is with a young child, the better the child's grades will be, and the less likely the child will be to try drugs and sex or drop out of church. Parents — play "catch" a little more often, read books together, sit down to family

meals, pray together, and stay in touch with each other.

Is it really essential for couples to have quiet time together?

Couples need encouragement and empowerment. Quiet time allows couples (and individuals) to come to the creator of the universe for assurance, comfort, and suggestions. Marriage is a miracle in that two people from different backgrounds come together and learn to relate to each other. Quiet time allows couples to share their thoughts and prayers with God and each other. This is intimacy, which can be defined and pronounced this way: "Into me, see." Prayer, scripture reading, and discussion allow a couple to understand more about each other and their maker, which gives a sense of connection and peace. When we share our thoughts with another person, we have a "sounding board" and a partner who strengthens us through prayers and fellowship. Quiet time is just that — time to draw apart and meet with the Lord for refreshment, strength, and peace.

Send your counseling questions to LifeAnswers c/o The Baptist Record, P.O. Box 530, Jackson, MS 39205-0530. Please be brief. Name is not required. Remember: In time of crisis, your pastor can make recommendations on your counseling needs.

Thursday, November 10, 1994

Just for the Record



First Church, Lucedale, celebrated an answer to prayer on Sept. 26. The church had prayed the Lord would bring 40 men and 40 women to commit for Monday visitation. Over 70 people responded, and 100 contacts were made through the effort. John Turner is pastor.



Sylvarena Church, Raleigh, will have a "Time of Celebration and Dedication," Nov. 17-20 to celebrate what God has accomplished in rebuilding the facilities destroyed by tornado on Nov. 22, 1992. The activities are Thursday, 7 p.m., worship led by Bryan "Bo" Parker in musical concert; Friday, 7 p.m., worship services led by Hueston Adkins, pastor, and church staff; Saturday, 6 p.m., harvest supper; Sunday, Bible study, 10 a.m., worship, 11 a.m.; lunch served at noon, and dedication service, 1:30 p.m.

Neely Church, Neely, will celebrate its 150th anniversary on June 25, 1995. The church requests that former staff members or anyone having information, facts, or pictures, write the church at P.O. Box 304, Neely, MS 39461 or call (601) 525-3855.

Wheeler Grove, Corinth, will have harvest day on Nov. 13 at 11 a.m. and 6:30 p.m. Danny Lanier, Little Rock, will be the evangelist.

Mt. Horeb Church, Collins, will have a harvest night revival on Nov. 16 at 7 p.m. Danny Lanier, Little Rock, will be the evangelist. Johnny Beaver is pastor.

Alta Woods and Calvary churches, Jackson, will join choirs to perform Handel's "Young Messiah" on Dec. 11 at 3 p.m. at Calvary, and 7 p.m. at Alta Woods. Bob Jones, Alta Woods minister of music and Gil Powell, Calvary minister of music, will lead the joint performance. Alta Woods also offers private lessons in piano, voice, violin, cello, organ, guitar, band instruments, and computer training in music. For more information on either program, call Alta Woods at (601) 372-8651.

The Lebanon Association (Russell Bush Jr., moderator) has passed a resolution commending **First Church, Hattiesburg**, for giving birth and nurture to many churches within the association, and for hosting the association's fall meeting in its 100th anniversary year. Robert Homer III is First Church pastor.

Shady Grove Church, Lucedale, recently honored its GAs. They are: Ramsay Fallon, Whitney Cochran, Erin Cornelison, Meagan Havard, Lonna Miller, Amber Watson, Gena Cochran, Rebecca Willcutt, and Jodee Holland. Leaders are Wanda Watson and Teresa Cowart. Sammy Chisolm is pastor.



Lowrey Memorial Church, Blue Mountain, recently recognized the work of its GAs, Acteens, and RAs. Girls honored were (top photo, left to right): front row, Georgia Norton, Chelsey Culver, Jenna Newby; second row, Grace Meyer, Laura Thurmond, Felicia Norton; and top, Becky Grisham, queen. RAs honored were (above, left to right): leader Mike Fraiser, Stephen Pipken, Joshua Crosby, Kevin Sheffield, Ray Hudson, and Grant Meyer.

Churches adopt Expanded Annuity Plan

The following churches have adopted the Expanded Annuity Plan since those reported in the Sept. 29 issue of **The Baptist Record**: Copiah: Zion Hill; Jackson: First, Helena; Jasper: Shady Grove First; Marion: Clear Creek; and Northwest: Church Road.

Revival Dates

Woodland, Pontotoc: Nov. 13-16; Sunday, 11 a.m. and 6 p.m.; Mon.-Wed., 7 p.m.; Jim Harrington, director of missions, Monroe Association, evangelist; Angie Camp, Woodland Church, music; Randy W. Kolb, pastor.

Church, music: Lester M. Jeffer pastor.

First, Ovett: Nov. 13-16; Sunday, 11 a.m. and 1:15 p.m.; Mon. Wed., 7 p.m.; John Hilburn, Jones County, evangelist; Hiram Eave music; Tommy Mangum, pastor.

Galilee First Church, Gloucester: Nov. 17, one day revival; 7 p.m. Jim Richards, Baton Rouge, La. evangelist; Shelly Johnstone music; Sammy Smith, pastor.

Homecomings

Westside, Bruce: Nov. 13; 10:30 a.m.; Jeff Ruth, guest speaker; covered dish lunch will be served at noon; Walter Simmons, pastor.

Jericho, Baldwyn: 114th anniversary; Nov. 18-20; Fri. and Sat., 7 p.m.; Rickey Blythe, Flora, guest speaker; Sunday, 10:50 a.m..

Jimmy Welch, guest speaker; Karen Davis, music; covered dish luncheon; afternoon singing: Ned Davis, pastor.

Bethlehem, Pinola: Nov. 13; 1 a.m.; dinner in the fellowship hall noon; no night service; Jerome McLendon, pastor.

Nevada Baptists elect layman, hike Cooperative Program giving

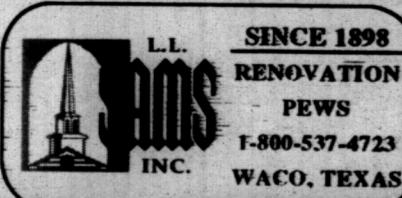
LAS VEGAS, Nev. (BP) — Messengers to the Nevada Convention elected Keith Minty, a layman, as president and hiked the percentage of their Cooperative Program budget for national and international missions by one-half percent.

The budget adopted by the 161 messengers, totaling \$1,808,940,

THE ALASKA BAPTIST CONVENTION has made the following requests for service in that state:

Grandview Church, Anchorage, has an opening for a minister of education/administration. Resumes should be sent to the church at 1300 Columbine St., Anchorage, AK 99508 by Dec. 31.

First Church, Anchorage, needs a team of six volunteers to help construct an elevator shaft. All work will be done inside. For more information, contact Roy Caves, missions development committee chairman at Broadmoor Church, Jackson; telephone (601) 981-9834.



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Come hear the snow fall

- Ski Singles-December 26-30, 1994
- Ski Fuge I- December 26-30, 1994
- Ski Fuge II- March 13-17, 1995
- Ski Fuge III-March 20-24, 1995
- Ski Retreats- Thanksgiving- Easter- Plan your own.

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WATTS 1-800-898-0551
Jackson 957-3762

Staff Changes

Harry L. Cole has resigned from Ridgeway Church, Vicksburg, effective Dec. 1, 1994. A native of Winston County, he received his education at East Mississippi Community College and Covington Theological Seminary, Rossville, Ga. He will be available for supply and interim.

First Church, Yazoo City, has called **David Bryant** as minister of youth and activities effective Oct. 16. A native of Cleveland, he received his education at the University of Southern Mississippi and New Orleans Seminary. His previous place of service was Pleasant Hill Church, Columbus.

S.M. "Rocky" Heniques has announced his resignation as pastor of Hillcrest Church, Jackson, effective Feb. 8, due to arthritis. He previously served churches in Clarksdale, McComb, and Tutwiler. He has begun a computer services, publications, and consulting business from his home. He will, however, be available beginning Feb. 12 for interim and supply preaching.

James R. Barron has accepted the pastorate of Ridglea Heights Church, Escatawpa. He and his wife Linda have served 26 years

Missionary News

Edward and Bettie Lockwood, missionaries to Indian Ocean Islands, are on the field (address: B.P. 3953, Antananarivo 1, Madagascar, Indian Ocean Island). He was born in Waverly, Tenn., and she, the former Bettie Hitt, in slate Springs.

as missionaries in the Azores Islands and Ghana. They retired as missionaries on advice of her surgeon.

Gary Blair has been called as the new pastor of First Church, Houlka, effective the first week in November. A native of Starkville, Blair graduated from Southwestern Seminary. His previous place of service was First Blair Church, Isola.

Freedom Church, Laurel, has called **Steve Nixon**, as minister of youth, effective Sept. 1. A native of Jones County, he is a graduate of Clarke College. Nixon was ordained to the gospel ministry on Oct. 16.

Lewis Harrell has been called by First Church, Indianola, as associate pastor and minister of youth and education. Harrell served four years as youth minister at Faith Church, Starkville. He is married and has two children.

Little Bahala Church, Weston, has called **Wayne Gray** of Clinton as pastor effective in September. A native of Louisiana, he received his education at Baylor University and Southwestern Seminary. His previous place of service was Rockett Church, Red Oak, Texas.

Travel with Christians is fun. Call us — 362-0045/1-800-841-8991

WONDERS OF HOLY LAND & EGYPT

Feb. 21-Mar. 3 with David Ray who has been to areas many times. GALILEE, MT. OF BEATITUDES, NAZARETH, CALVARY, GARDEN TOMB & more in Israel. GREAT PYRAMIDS, the NILE & more in Egypt without hotel-hopping. Few seats left - Call today.

TREASURES OF TURKEY & APOSTLE PAUL

Mar. 22-Apr. 3 escorted by David Ray includes areas of PAUL'S MISSIONARY JOURNEYS, CHURCHES OF REVELATION, Istanbul, cruise the Bosphorus, Topkapi Palace & more. 6 spaces open. As low as \$2195 pp.

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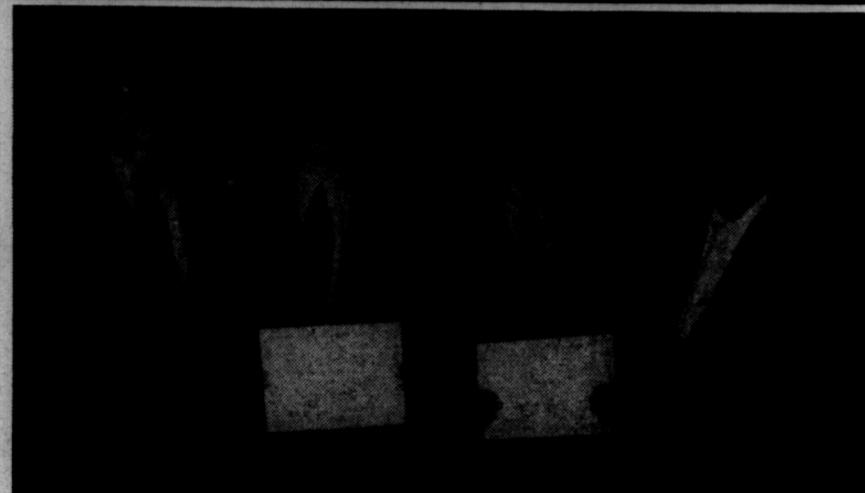
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Thursday, November 10, 1994

BAPTIST RECORD PAGE 9

Names in the News

George Gerald Aultman will be honored at a retirement service at Maybank Church, Hattiesburg, 2 p.m., on Nov. 13. A reception will follow in the church fellowship hall.



Cliff Temple Church, Natchez, recently ordained **Donnie McIlwain** (second from left) and **Glenn Switzer** (second from right) as deacons. **Don Womble** (left) is pastor. **Dale Little** (right) is director of missions, Adams Association.



Deborah Brady (left to right), **Mary Lou Smith**, **Ann Wilson**, and **Paul Wilson** were recently recognized by Easthaven Church, Brookhaven, upon their completion of tenure as Sunday School workers. The four workers had a combined total of 140 years of service.

recommendations and applications, including biographical forms. Qualifications for the position of executive director include a Ph.D. (or equivalent) in history (preferably Baptist history), an understanding of the Baptist heritage, administrative and organizational skills, and a record of publications in Baptist history. Recommendations and applications should be sent to Ronald Martin, c/o Historical Commission, SBC, 901 Commerce St., #400, Nashville, TN 37203-3630 before the Jan. 15, 1995, deadline.

WAKE FOREST, N.C. (BP) — Southeastern Seminary has named **David Sinclair** as assistant professor of preaching and speech at the Wake Forest, N.C., school. Sinclair most recently served on the staff of The Navigators, an international missions organization, as director of conference programs in Colorado Springs, Colo. Southeastern's President Paige Patterson called Sinclair a superb addition to



Lila Miller was recently honored by Pearson Church, Pearl, for her 22 years of service to the church's bus ministry. Miller also was recognized for her 34 years of perfect Sunday School attendance. Robert Sorey is Sunday School director; Wayne Long is pastor.

the seminary's growing faculty. "David will bring a real fire and gift for oratory to Southeastern's classrooms," Patterson said. "His commitment to expository, biblically-based preaching echoes my own pulse."

Arrowood Church, Meridian, ordained three new deacons on Oct. 30. They were **Paul Ricks**, **Billie Barlow**, and **Eric Bratu**. Jerry Bratu, who recently was ordained to the ministry, gave the ordination charge; Kevin Griffin, pastor, preached the ordination service.

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Parks speaks to CBF breakfast

Tom Pearson, pastor of Northside Church in Clinton and moderator of the Mississippi Cooperative Baptist Fellowship, welcomed about 55 people to a breakfast meeting Nov. 2 hosted by the organization in Jackson. Helen Jean Parks (right), former missionary to Indonesia and wife of CBF's missions coordinator Keith Parks, spoke to breakfast attendees just prior to the fourth session of the Mississippi Baptist Convention's annual meeting. Outlining the CBF's missions strategies and successes in targeting World A, Parks said, "If only one person were to come to Jesus out of our efforts, it will have been worth it." Afterwards, Parks showed missionary cards to Glen Williams (left), director of missions for Pike Association, and Bradley Pope, member of Northside Church, Clinton. A prayer aid published by the CBF, the cards are similar to baseball cards in size and format, with facts and photos of the featured missionary and the country he or she serves. Object of the cards is to provide a prayer reminder for those who will intercede for the CBF's 52 missionaries and their fields of service. (Photo by Shannon T. Simpson)

Iowa Baptists up CP percentage, launch state convention plans

DAVENPORT, Iowa (BP) — Iowa Southern Baptist Fellowship messengers have hiked the percentage of their Cooperative Program budget for Southern Baptist causes by one-half percent and begun the process of becoming a state convention in 1995.

The two steps were among actions taken by 101 messengers from 40 churches during the fellowship's Oct. 20-21 annual meeting at Hillcrest Church, Davenport.

Messengers also elected a 12-member long-range planning committee for the years 1997-2001.

The Iowa fellowship's 1995 Cooperative Program budget of \$299,488 includes a 1.5% designation for Southern Baptist Convention national and international missions and ministries, up by a half-percent from 1994. The overall fellowship budget for 1995 was set at just under \$1.2 million.

The fellowship's new convention committee presented a report, video, and skit about plans to become a state convention in 1995. The fellowship was formed in 1965 at First Church, Winterset, as the Iowa Southern Association. "Our Time Has Come" will be the theme of the 1995 annual meeting, Oct. 20-21 at the Winterset Church. Currently the fellowship encompasses 102 churches and missions.

Elected as fellowship president was Ed Gregory, pastor of Immanuel Church, Cedar Rapids, and vice president, John Shauall, pastor of First Church, Winterset. Jonette Appleton, a member of First Church, Johnston, was re-elected recording secretary.

Texas Baptists vote to revise Cooperative Program definition

AMARILLO, Texas (BP) — Texas Baptists at their annual meeting in Amarillo, Oct. 31-Nov. 1, voted to expand the definition of their Cooperative Program giving plan.

And that should send the national Southern Baptist Convention a message that Texas Baptists favor "states' rights over federal control," according to newly re-elected convention president Jerold McBride.

McBride, pastor of First Church, San Angelo, was elected by acclamation to a traditional second annual term as president of the Baptist General Convention of Texas (BGCT).

Convention messengers approved recommendations of the Cooperative Missions Giving Study Committee, a 22-member committee appointed by McBride to discover ways to "enhance cooperative missions giving among all Texas Baptists."

Texas Baptists broadened the definition of Cooperative Program giving to include "Texas only" gifts or church-directed gifts to non-Southern Baptist Convention worldwide causes such as the Cooperative Baptist Fellowship or Baptist World Alliance. The giving plan will take effect Jan. 1, 1995, the beginning of the BGCT's fiscal year.

Cecil Ray of Georgetown, chairman of the study committee, urged adoption of the committee's recommendations as a way to give "breathing room essential to keeping Texas Baptists working together."

Missionary News

Tom and Hazel Barron, missionaries to Indonesia, are in the States (address: 15841 Central Pike, Lebanon, TN 37087). He was born in Forest, La., and grew up in Richton. She is the former Hazel Clark of Richton.

Dennis and Janet Brotherton, missionaries to Korea, are on the field (address: Yeo Eui Do, P.O. Box 165, Seoul 150-601, Korea). He is a native of West Plains, Mo. The former Janet Millier, she was born in Greenville.

John Hatch of Lake Jackson presented as a substitute a minority report from five members of the study committee, recommending "all gifts to the Baptist General Convention of Texas and/or the Southern Baptist Convention shall be recognized as Cooperative Program gifts."

Any "radical change" in the Cooperative Program could result in diminished missions giving, he said.

Joining Hatch in speaking in favor of the minority report were John Bisagno, pastor of First Church, Houston, and Henry Adiron III, pastor of First Church, Texas City.

Approving the full committee's recommendations for an expanded definition of Cooperative Program giving would "send shock waves across the Southern Baptist Convention," Bisagno said.

Approval of the expanded Cooperative Program does not mean the BGCT is pulling away from the SBC, McBride said.

"It's not a distancing. But we're saying, 'It's our decision how we will give our funds.'"

McBride said he believed Russell Dilday's firing brought the SBC controversy home to many Texas Baptists and was the "catalyst" that spurred messengers to action at this year's convention.

The BGCT also approved resolutions opposing the legalization of casinos in Texas, affirming church/state separation and clarifying that Texas Baptists have not endorsed the document, "Evangelicals and Catholics Together."

The document had been signed by Richard Land, executive director-treasurer, Christian Life Commission, and Larry Lewis, president, Home Mission Board.

Kansas-Nebraska Baptists begin 50th anniversary

LINCOLN, Neb. (BP) — The Kansas-Nebraska Convention kicked off its 50th anniversary celebration during the convention's 49th annual meeting Oct. 24-26 at Southview Church, Lincoln, Neb. The convention was challenged to celebrate what God has done and anticipate the future, as the 50th

anniversary celebration will culminate during the 1995 annual meeting.

Nearly 560 people attended this year's meeting, including 331 registered messengers and 227 visitors. Southview, the host church, is the oldest Southern Baptist church in Nebraska, founded in September 1955.

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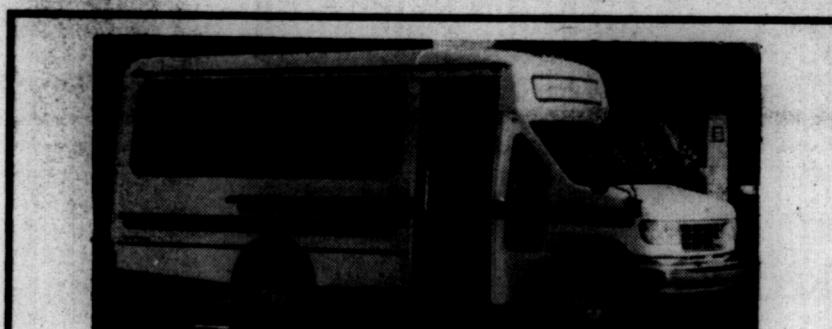
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Uniform Acknowledging our sin



By Richard Bradley
2 Samuel 12

The story of David and Bathsheba is one of the best known of all Bible stories. Unfortunately, what is remembered most often is the sin that David committed rather than the manner in which God dealt with his sin. What ought to be emphasized in this story is not what a terrible sinner David was, but what a wonderful, forgiving God he worshipped. David's sin was terrible and it did result in much pain and anguish, but in loving grace God forgave him and eventually restored to him the joy of his salvation. We can be terrible in our sin, but God is always wonderful in his grace.

God is always aware of our sin (vv. 1-4). We often feel like we're getting away with something when we sin. "If nobody knows then nobody is hurt." The problem is, nothing is ever done in secret. When David sent for Bathsheba, God was there. When David sinned with her, God was there. When David sought to cover up his sin by having Uriah sleep with his wife, God was there. When David ordered Uriah's death, God was there. When David took Bathsheba as his wife, God was the invited guest at the festivities. No part of any of this escaped God's notice.

Nathan's mission to David served as a pretty good reminder of God's omnipresence. It is also a pretty good reminder that there is an all-seeing eye watching me and an all-seeing eye watching you. He sees the good that we do, but he also is an ever-present witness to the bad.

Our own lives need to be examined (vv. 5-6). Nathan told David a story about a poor man and a rich man which served to illustrate the very sin David had committed. Upon hearing Nathan's story, David became completely incensed that someone could do such a thing. David was not even aware that he was the very subject of the story.

If we could only become as angry over the sin in our own lives as we are over the sin in the lives of others. We often look to others and examine them when we ought to be conducting a self-examination. Regular self-examinations just might prevent future sins.

God holds us responsible for our sin (vv. 7-9). Much to David's dismay, Nathan revealed him as the guilty party in the story. David was the one who had taken no pity. David was the rich man who would not let a poor man and his family live in peace. David was the man who plundered his neighbor.

This revelation is a vivid reminder that God holds us accountable for our sin. We and we alone are responsible for our sin. While we may blame our environment, our acquaintances, or our upbringing, God blames us and holds us accountable. We alone sin and we alone must bear the consequences. David learned this sad fact the hard way.

God always judges sin (v. 10). God's judgment of David's sin is a reminder that there is always a price to be paid for sin. Because of his holiness, God cannot simply overlook our sin. In his grace, God will forgive our sin and restore the joy of our salvation, but he will not negate the consequences of our acts of disobedience. David and his house would suffer because of his sin.

David's acknowledgment of his sin (v. 13). David could have reacted to Nathan's revelation in just about any way he might have chosen. After all, he was the king. He could have thrown Nathan into prison or even had him put to death. However, showing that he was indeed a man after God's own heart, David simply said, "I have sinned against the Lord" (v. 13, NIV). David sinned against Bathsheba and against Uriah, but ultimately, all sin is against God.

Admitting our sin and that we and we alone are responsible is the first step in seeking God's forgiveness. However, simply confessing sin is not the same as forsaking sin, but it is a good start. Admitting sin leads us to seek God's forgiveness and to forsake its influence in our lives.

Bradley is pastor, Handsboro Church, Gulfport.

Bible Book Relating to one another



By Raymond Kolb
Ephesians 5:21 — 6:9

The relationship of mutual submission (5:21). This verse provides a good connection between what had just been said and what is to follow. Also, it is good sound advice for Christian living. The principle laid down here applies well to the body of Christ, to an individual church, to family relationships, and to other relationships where Christians are involved. Let's remember that the letter is written to saints (Christians). "Submit (submitting yourselves) to one another out of reverence for Christ." This is a voluntary, personal submission. Each one recognizes the rights and values of others. It is the opposite from a "demanding my rights" attitude. It is a principle which all Christians should follow voluntarily, but in which none should be forced.

The relationship of wife and husband (5:22-33). This principle of voluntary submission is applied to relationships between wives and husbands, children and parents, and slaves and masters. Paul begins with the most basic of these, that of wives and husbands. "Wives, submit yourselves to your own husbands, as to the Lord" (5:22). He is speaking to the wives, not to the husbands. Husbands are not told to be domineering in relation to their wives. The form of the verb used by Paul is not imperative. The initiative is with the wife and is voluntary in the same sense as all Christians are asked to submit themselves to one another in the preceding verse. In verses 23-24 Paul draws a comparison between the relationship of husband to wife and that of Christ to his church. Paul hastens to indicate that the comparison should not be taken too far. Christ is Saviour of his church which is not true of the husband to wife relationship. But wives are reminded again to subject themselves to their husbands.

"Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ loved the church..." (5:25). Paul now uses the imperative form of the verb, and commands husbands to love their wives just as Christ loved the church and gave himself for it. Husbands should love their wives as they love their own bodies. A Christian husband and a Christian wife are equally members of the body of Christ. There is no place for inferior and superiors. "There is neither Jew nor Greek, slave nor free, male nor female, for you are all one in Jesus Christ" (Gal. 3:28). In all pre-Christian history, and even to the present time in some cases, women are considered inferior to men and often considered mere property. In Christ we are all equal. It is sad that two thousand years after the birth of Christ the worth of a person may be judged by race, sex, wealth, social, or political position, etc. "Each one of you must love his wife as he loves himself, and the wife must respect her husband" (5:33).

The relationship of child and parent (6:1-4). "Children, obey your parents" (6:1). Again the imperative is used, for this is right not only in an ethical sense, but it is also in keeping with a commandment of God. "Honor your father and mother" is taken from Exodus 20:12 along with the promise attached to the commandment. Again it should be remembered that this letter is written to a Christian community and that Christians should set the right example for the rest of the world. There is a word for Christian parents, too. Do not provoke (exasperate) your children. Do not treat them in such a way as to make them angry and rebellious.

The relationship of servant and master (6:5-9). "Slaves, obey your earthly masters with respect and fear..." (6:5). Was Paul speaking in favor of slavery? No. But he did face reality. Slavery was a common practice at that time. Some Christians owned slaves. Some slaves were well educated and held important positions. In 1 Corinthians 7:17-24 Paul calls on Christians to accept the circumstances in which they find themselves and live in such a way that their testimony, whether by word or action, will show to the world that Christ makes a difference. The same principles set forth here should apply equally to employees and employers in our day. We have gone far in eradicating official slavery, but practical slavery may still exist in many places. A Christian employer should remember the golden rule and treat his employee just as he would like to be treated if their circumstances were reversed. The Christian employee should be guided by that same principle, realizing that this will largely determine his influence for Christ.

Kolb is a retired missionary living in Clinton.

Life and Work Treating God's love lightly



By Ruth Allen
Hosea 4-7

Many times sick people have promised that if and when they got well, they were going to live lives more devoted to God. However, it is very easy to break a promise. Consequently, many promptly forgot their promises as soon as they got well and went back to their old ways of living. A pastor told of a worldly man who promised him that if he got well, he would attend church regularly and would give \$500 to God as a thank offering. He recovered his health, but he did not go near the church nor did he give the money he had voluntarily promised. When the pastor asked him about it, the man flew into a rage and compromised by giving \$100. Like Ephraim and Judah, the man's goodness evaporated "as a morning cloud, and as the early dew."

Ephraim and Judah were guilty of treating God's love lightly (4:1-7). God's promises are on an ever-ascending scale. One promise leads to another, fuller and more blessed than the other. The people of Israel were familiar with God's promises to Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob. God offered them the same promises, but they responded with no acknowledgement of God. God's people were unfaithful, showed no love to God, and engaged in sins beyond description. Cursing, murder, stealing, and adultery were the order of the day.

God said, "My people were destroyed for a lack of knowledge." The people of Israel had followed the teachings of corrupt prophets. Therefore, God made a serious charge against Israel. God's charge was "since the people had rejected God, God would now reject them." Rejection by God is the terrible consequence of lightly treating God's love. This passage is very descriptive of America today. How will America respond to the charge of unfaithfulness? How will an individual respond when charged with failing to acknowledge God? God has not abandoned his people with no hope. He has faithfully provided a way to eliminate this terrible predicament.

God issued a call to return and acknowledge him (6:1-6). God urges his people to acknowledge him as Lord of their lives. The act of seeking God becomes a continual pursuit to those who love God. In fact, through Hosea he urges his people to keep on acknowledging him. God used the assurance of the sunrise as his guarantee to appear to his people. Just as the sun rose daily, the people of Israel could rely on God. God further augmented his assurance which is illustrated by the regular appearing of the spring and winter rains. God was displeased with people who were like the "morning mist, and early dew." These elements represented people who gave an outward appearance of faithfulness but failed to produce moisture and evaporated into thin air.

God was displeased with the prophets who, instead of leading the people to God, were corrupt in their own living and teaching. God has always held leaders to a higher standard of conduct. Mercy was lacking from the prophets and people's lives. Mercy is one of the greatest attributes of God, and it must likewise be an attribute of his people. However, mercy was lacking, and the people sought to cover this discrepancy with sacrifices. Many people go through the forms of worship without ever displaying merciful attitudes. It is much easier for a person to make an offering than it is to give oneself. God wanted his people to give themselves wholeheartedly to him in service and love.

Acknowledgement of God is more to be desired than burnt offerings. Burnt offerings were intended to be an outward display of an inward transformation. Therefore, when God's people consistently refuse to have mercy and to acknowledge him as Lord of life and worship, he is not pleased with his children. A noted physician kept a record of 300 people who were expecting to die soon; they supposedly repented of their sins. However, after becoming well, only 10 persons gave any outward evidence that they were truly regenerated. God promises his love and strength to all. He expects his people to love him sincerely and to acknowledge him for his many gifts.

Allen lives in Jackson.

capsules

RWANDAN PEDESTRIAN KILLED IN MISSIONARY AUTO MISHAP: KIGALI, Rwanda (BP) — A Rwandan woman was killed instantly Oct. 24 when she walked into the side of a vehicle driven by a Southern Baptist missionary in a rural area outside Kigali, Rwanda's capital. Missionary Diane Randolph of Dallas was driving a double-cab pickup truck, loaded with Rwandans, in the rain to a church function when the incident occurred. She was not charged by police. In rural areas of Rwanda, as in many other developing countries, streams of people often line both sides of roads as they travel by foot. After the accident, witnesses along the road "recognized it was not (Randolph's) fault," said Clyde Berkley, a Foreign Mission Board administrator for eastern and southern Africa. "Normally when someone is hit in Africa people don't react well to it," Berkley said. "The fact that people didn't accuse her or react with hostility is the Lord's protection" and an answer to much recent prayer for missionaries in Rwanda. Randolph was treated with kindness by onlookers at the scene and later by police, he added. Randolph and her husband Larry, administrator for the Southern Baptist missionaries working in Rwanda, recently returned to the civil war-ravaged nation to work with Baptists left in Kigali after the mass exodus of Rwandans into neighboring countries. She also coordinates Baptist women's work in Rwanda.

BAPTISTS GAIN IN PARAGUAY: ASUNCION, Paraguay — Three recent events of national significance have advanced the Baptist cause in Paraguay. The house of representatives of the Paraguayan congress has unanimously approved the creation of a evangelical university — to be led by Paraguayan Baptists. Meanwhile, Southern Baptist missionary Hebert Palomino has begun a weekly, live TV talk show. The program, on which Palomino counsels people with problems, is rapidly gaining popularity. And the first book of Protestantism in Paraguay has been written by pastor Rojelio Duarte. It was introduced to the public during a special reception at the Baptist Medical Center in Asuncion.

RUTH GOERNER DIES AT 87: RICHMOND, Va. — Ruth P. Goerner, 87, wife of H. Cornell Goerner, retired Foreign Mission Board administrator for work in Africa, Europe, and the Middle East, died Oct. 12 in Richmond. The former Ruth Vinall Paddock of Fort Worth; Mrs. Goerner was a graduate of Southern Methodist University in Dallas and also attended Southern Seminary, Louisville, Ky. Before her marriage she taught biology and chemistry in Texas public schools. During Goerner's 1957-76 tenure with the Foreign Mission Board, Mrs. Goerner frequently accompanied him on trips to visit missionaries throughout his area. Previously, she assisted him in the 22 years he was professor of missions at Southern Seminary. In addition to her husband, she is survived by three daughters, five grandchildren, four great-grandchildren, a sister, and a brother. Funeral services were held Oct. 15 in Richmond, where the Goerners had continued to live in retirement.

MEDICAL VOLUNTEERS TREAT 13,000 VENEZUELAN: CARACAS, Venezuela — About 150 Southern Baptist health-care volunteers treated 13,000 patients during September medical clinics in Caracas, Venezuela's capital. About 2,000 Venezuelans made spiritual decisions during the clinics, part of a three-year church planting emphasis in Caracas. First-time volunteer David Taunton, a Birmingham, Ala., physician, made a house call to treat a Venezuelan man who turned 101 the next day. Taunton, a Foreign Mission Board trustee, said the trip left him with two impressions: "The needs are great. And what a great God we have." Volunteers, led by Nashville physician Dewey Dunn, provided patients general medical, dental, and eye care and medicine. Some team members also lectured at Venezuelan medical and nursing schools.

Bibliocipher

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This week's clue: P Equals T.

Have fun with cryptography and exercise your Bible knowledge. A King James Version Bible verse has been encoded by letter substitution. The same letter is substituted throughout the puzzle. Solve by trial and error. Answer to last week's puzzle: Jeremiah Seven: Seven.

Cambodia's needs keep Bruce and Gloria Carlton hopping

(Continued from last week)

BATTAMBANG, Cambodia (BP) — Bruce Carlton, coordinator of Cambodian work for Cooperative Services International (CSI), the Southern Baptist aid organization, aided national Baptist leaders Leng Sovann and Sar Soth in baptizing more than 30 new believers earlier this year.

Since Carlton and his wife Gloria, from Georgetown, Ky., and Elkins, Ark., respectively, arrived four years ago, evangelical Christian missions have sprung up across the country.

Now a strong Baptist church thrives in Phnom Penh, the capital city, where the Carltons live.

Carlton works mostly in the background with leaders, rather than doing baptisms himself. Carlton invests his time in training leaders who in turn will witness in diverse places. He believes training Cambodians to work in responsive areas is the best way to

multiply his influence.

As a CSI development worker, Carlton has sparked humanitarian aid programs that help people physically. These days the most responsive places are rural — outside Phnom Penh and Battambang. About 85% of Cambodia's 8.5 million people live in rural areas.

In his busy rounds to these rural areas, Carlton uses a four-wheel-drive truck because of the poor roads that predominate. On trips to outlying areas he often uses motorbikes, the omnipresent vehicle of choice for most Cambodians. The two-wheeler work better on dirt roads and paths through the underbrush.

He stays in constant touch with home and two Southern Baptist volunteers via a cellular telephone he carries in a holster on his belt. The phone is a necessity in a country where warfare could spring up at any moment.

Gloria Carlton is a full-time partner with her husband. She

helps manage bookkeeping and is involved in women's ministry at Russey Keo Khmer Baptist Church in the city. Often when he works in the villages, she winds up being the one to check on the progress of a new project or see that the thread supply gets to the weaving class. She also has helped establish a basket-weaving class for women at the church.

Heat is a year-round presence in Cambodia. You take a shower, get refreshed, walk outside, then instantly feel the need for another shower. Electricity is often off, so a back-up generator is required, but diesel fuel is too expensive to run it for more than a few hours a day.

Security is a constant worry. Theft is common in Phnom Penh. "It's always there, even though you don't always feel it," says Carlton. "You learn to live with it." A heavy gate blocks the entrance to the Carlton driveway.

Health also is a constant concern. Medical facilities are limited, and insects carry several types of malaria and other diseases. Drinking water must be purified.

As peace has brought increasing prosperity to Phnom Penh, small but Western-styled grocery stores have opened to compete with street markets, at least for Westerners with dollar incomes. Yet rents have risen sharply, along with the cost of many other items.

The Carltons' daughters, Elizabeth, 11, and Mary, 10, attend an international school up the street from their home. Plans call for the school to go through grade 10 next year. Eventually the Carltons may have to decide between home schooling and a boarding school in another country. Neither is an easy option.

The Carltons are happy with the results they're seeing in their work. But they acknowledge living in Cambodia for four years has taken a toll.

"I'm 38 going on 50," says Carlton with a grin, "and you can quote me on that."



DAUGHTER AND NEWBORN DAD — Sen Chan Dara rejoices with his daughter after his May 1994 baptism in a Cambodian river. Children on the riverbank watch other believers being baptized in the distance. Sen studied hard in high school because he wanted to become a doctor. But when the communist Khmer Rouge took over Cambodia, that dream died. He was forced to quit his studies and sent to dig irrigation ditches and plant rice. A brother, a sister, and her husband were killed. Sen, who now works with two humanitarian groups, became a Christian in part through the witness of Paulo Rosa, a Southern Baptist English teacher. Nearly 20 years after the communists began their campaign to destroy religion in Cambodia, a new generation of Christians is rising from the ashes. (BP photo by Warren Johnson)

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SOUTHERN BAPTIST HISTORICAL SOCIETY
901 COMMERCE ST SUITE 401
NASHVILLE TN 37203

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